

CHLORAMINE FACTS

Is Chloramine disinfection new?

No. Chloramine disinfection has been used in the United States since the early 1900's

Are Chloramines safe?

Yes. Chloraminated water is safe for drinking, cooking, bathing, lawn and plant care and all other everyday uses.

Which customers will be affected by the switch to Chloramines?

All customers who currently receive water from the Town of Bar Harbor will be affected.

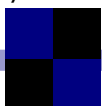
Do I need to take special precautions once the Chloramine conversion is complete?

Only three special groups of water customers need to take precautions with chloraminated water: fish and amphibian owners, customers who are treated with dialysis either at home or in a dialysis facility, and business using highly treated water.

What changes in my water will I notice?

If you notice any change at all, the water may have less of a chlorine taste and odor. However, directly following the chloramines conversion some temporary impacts may be noticed in isolated areas as the chloraminated water is introduced into the distribution system. Some customers may notice a temporary variation in water color as well as possible sediment in the water.

These temporary impacts to water quality are similar to those experienced when maintenance is performed on the water distribution system and will cease as the system stabilizes.



For More Information About the Town of Bar Harbor's Water Disinfection

Contact:

Jeff Van Trump

Water Division Superintendent

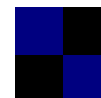
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Converting To Chloramines On May 19, 2009

TOWN OF BAR HARBOR
WATER DIVISION
337 MAIN STREET
BAR HARBOR, ME 04609



Chloramines:

What you should know.

The Town of Bar Harbor has begun a construction project in order to improve the drinking water disinfection method from free chlorine to a process which uses chloramines.

Why Chloramines

Chloramines is a combination of chlorine and ammonia that, when used as a drinking water disinfectant, are considered the “method of choice” because it is a proven cost-effective way to maintain drinking water quality and compliance under new Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Maine Drinking Water Program (MDWP) regulations. An added benefit to chloramine disinfectant is that water taste and odor resulting from this process is improved over water disinfected via the existing free chlorine disinfection process.

While the Town of Bar Harbor already complies with all current water quality regulations, this change is being introduced [in advance](#) of new, more stringent EPA health standards now being phased into water quality standards. The Town is planning to complete the conversion to chloramine disinfection on **May 19, 2009**.

Three Groups of People Who Should Take Special Precautions when Using Chloraminated Water:

People Who Are Currently Dialysis Patients

Like chlorine, chloramines must be removed from the water used in kidney dialysis machines. This is because the water used in dialysis is issued directly into the patients’ bloodstream. Medical centers performing dialysis are responsible for preparing the water that enters the dialysis machines. The Water Division is working with representatives of local medical facilities and extended care facilities to inform them of the Town’s conversion to chloramines disinfectant of the water supply and are currently addressing the issues related to this important and beneficial change. If you are a dialysis patient or have questions, call your physician or dialysis treatment provider.

Fish Pond and Aquarium Owners

Chloramines must be removed from water before it is used in fish ponds or aquariums. Most pet stores sell water conditioners for chloraminated water. If you have questions, please contact your local pet store for information and detailed instructions. Chloramines cannot be removed simply by allowing the water to sit out. Chloramines must be removed through either filtration or use of special additives-as sold by most pet stores.

Businesses/Facilities Using Highly Treated Water

Businesses and facilities which use highly treated water need to ensure that the water pretreatment includes steps to remove not only chlorine, but chloramines.

Other Municipalities in Maine Using Chloraminated Disinfection:

<i>Municipality</i>	<i>Year Initiated</i>
<i>Bangor</i>	<i>1995</i>
<i>Brewer</i>	<i>1996</i>
<i>Portland</i>	<i>Mid 1930</i>